

Export Duty on Coir.

168. **MR. A. G. MENON (Parur):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been in recent years depression in the coir trade owing to the fall in the price of coir of every variety;

(b) the prices of the different varieties of coir at the time when the present export duty was imposed on that commodity and their current prices (9-3-1104);

(c) whether it is not a fact that the price varies with the variety of coir sold and that the price of the superior kind of coir is nearly thirty to thirty-three per cent higher than that of the ordinary kind exported from Parur and other places; and

(d) whether they are aware that the majority of the poor classes of the coastal taluks live on the profits of coir manufacture?

MR. K. GEORGE (Chief Secretary to Government): (a) Apart from the usual market fluctuations there has not been a depression in recent years in the coir trade, nor was there any marked reduction in the price of coir yarn.

(b) Prices of the different varieties of coir at the time when the present export duty was imposed are shown below:

Weaving yarn	...	Rs. 10 per cwt.
Anjengo variety	...	Rs. 18½ do.
Aratoray do.	...	Rs. 14½ do.
Alapat do.	...	Rs. 21 do.

Current Prices.

Beach yarn	—Rs. 60 to Rs. 65 per candy	(approximately Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 per cwt.)
Vaikam	—Rs. 80 to Rs. 90 do.	(approximately Rs. 13 to Rs. 15 per cwt.)
Parur (North)	—Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 do.	(approximately Rs. 13 to Rs. 17 per cwt.)
Mangadan	—Rs. 90 to Rs. 100 do.	(approximately Rs. 15 to Rs. 17 per cwt.)
Aratoray	} Rs. 100 to Rs. 125 do.	(approximately Rs. 17 to Rs. 21 per cwt.)
Anjengo		
Ashtamudi		
Alapat	Rs. 130 to Rs. 140 do.	(approximately Rs. 21½ to Rs. 23 per cwt.)

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes, the coir industry affords a living to many of the poor of the coastal taluks.

Co-operative Societies that received Loans from the Central Co-operative Bank.

169. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha):** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing separately the names of the co-operative societies in the State and of the places at which they are working to which loans have